

Message Text

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ACTION CU-05

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 6151

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, SCUL, NI, US

SUBJECT: TRIP TO US BY CHAIRMAN BLACK ARTS FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

1. CHIEF ANTHONY ENAHORO, COMMISSIONER FOR INFORMATION AND CHAIRMAN BLACK ARTS FESTIVAL COMMITTEE, DEPARTED LAGOS JULY 7 FOR NEW YORK VIA LONDON. HE HAS ASKED EMBASSY ARRANGE AN APOINTMENT WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY JOHN RICHARDSON, AND "OTHER IMPORTANT AMERICAN OFFICIALS," ON THURSDAY, JULY 10, WHEN HE WILL TRAVEL FROM NEW YORK TO WASHINGTON FOR THESE MEETINGS IN ORDER DISCUSS AMERICAN PARTICIPATION IN THE 1975 FESTIVAL. EMBNSSY REQUESTS THAT APPROPRIATE APPOINTMENTS, CERTAINLY WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY RICHARDSON, BE MADE AND ENAHORO BE NOTIFIED THROUGH THE NIGERIAN EMBASSY AND THE CONSULATE IN NEW YORK.

2. COMMENT: DETAILS UNAVAILABLE HERE, BUT EHAHORO SEEMS DISILLUSIONED BY WORK, OR LACK THEREOF, TO DATE OF NORTH AMERICAN ZONAL COMMITTEE, ESPECIALLY LEADERSHIP OF OSSIE DAVIS, WHO IN TURN JUSTIFIABLY DISSATISFIED WITH SCANT PLANNING BEING DONE IN LAGOS. CANCELLATION OF JULY 8 EXTRAVAGANZA IN MADISON SQUARE GARDEN QUITE DISRUPTIVE ENAHORO PLANS RAISE FUNDS FOR FESTIVAL. LIKELY HE WILL ASK FOR EVIDENCE SERIOUS US INTENTIONS, SUCH AS PAYMENT OF \$10 THOUSAND REGISTRATION FEE. RECOMMEND RESTATEMENT OF DEPARTMENT'S DISCUSSIONS AND AGREEMENTS WITH DAVIS COMMITTEE, INCLUDING OFFER HALF THE FEE WHEN COMMITTEE READY. REQUEST PROMPT REPORT OF ANY WASHINGTON DISCUSSIONS AND OF OTHER ACTIVITIES WHILE ENAHORO IN US.

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